RIBON MASCOT COMICS

POCHI

ポチ

小花美穂

Obana Miho

POCHI
ポチ
~Mike's Story~

TINK!
TINK
TINK
TINK
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
MIKU?
YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE
OH! THANKS, GRANDPA

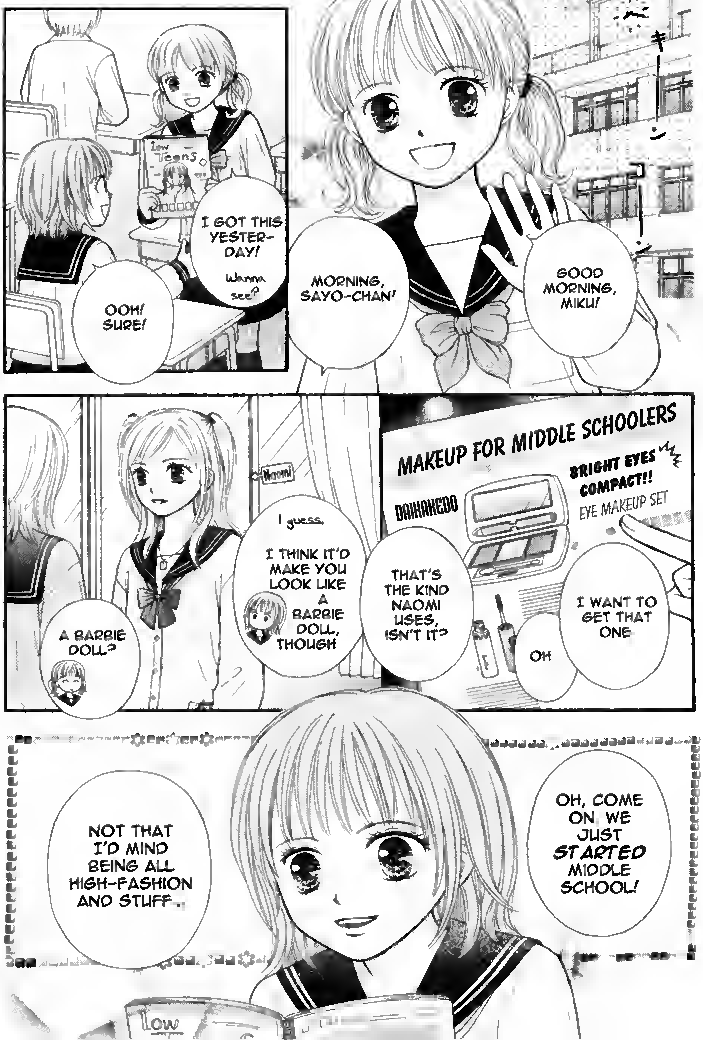
BYE, CHOKO-CHAN!
SEE YOU LATER, GUYS!
I live out in the K prefecture of Kento.
Way WAY out...
But living way out here sure can be exhausting!
45 minute walk to school
And the mountains are just outside of town!
I like the city a lot.
The city isn't really that far away, though.

My name is Miyake Miku, and I'm a first year middle school student

I take care of all the animals at home. That's my job

But sometimes I still long to wear nice clothes and be fashionable

CAW
HISS
'CUZ I SAID SO, THAT'S WHY!
KNOCK IT OFF!
HEY!
He seems to think he can get the cats and crows to do what he tells them to do!!
What's WITH him...?
CAW
COME BACK HERE!
OW!
Hey!
Shoo!
Shoo!
HUH..?
Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha
What a goofball!


GOOD MORNING, MIKU!
MORNING, SAYO-CHAN!
I GOT THIS YESTERDAY! Wanna see?
OOH! SURE!
MAKEUP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
BRIGHT EYES COMPACT!!
EYE MAKEUP SET
I WANT TO GET THAT ONE
OH
THAT'S THE KIND NAOMI USES, ISN'T IT?
I guess.
I THINK IT'D MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE A BARBIE DOLL, THOUGH
A BARBIE DOLL?
OH, COME ON. WE JUST STARTED MIDDLE SCHOOL!
NOT THAT I'D MIND BEING ALL HIGH-FASHION AND STUFF...

NO. I'D HELP MY GRANDPA.
YOU'D BUY MAKEUP IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY?
EHH... MAYBE IF I WIN THE LOTTERY.
BUT YOU KNOW, BEING HIGH-FASHION COSTS A LOT OF MONEY.
MORE THAN MY ALLOWANCE.
OH, YEAH! HIGH-FASHION!
Maybe Ann's Magazine...

Yeah on the cow.
Hehe!! I'm on my way!
COW
WOW
YOU'VE REALLY THOUGHT THIS OUT, HUH?
AND I'D RIDE MY COW DOWN THE STREET WITH THEM ON.
Oh yeah!
DON'T FORGET THE DRY CLEANER BILLS!
OF COURSE, I'D HAVE TO BUY NEW CLOTHES, TOO

REALLY! HEH HEH...
WELL, I ALWAYS WANTED TO GO INTO ACTING
YOU SURE RECOVER FAST!
Didn't think I would be so strong!
Ha Ha Ha

Can't you just buy them?
IT PASSES THE TIME WHEN I'M DIGGING UP POTATOES.
MIKU! THAT WAS REALLY FUNNY!

EWWW...
SOME-THING SMELLS LIKE A FARM IN HERE!
DOESN'T IT STINK?
HOLD YOUR NOSE.
UGH, THAT NAOMI...
IT'S OKAY.
NAOMI MAKES FUN OF EVERY-BODY.
PAY NO ATTENTION TO HER.
Yeah, Naomi can be obnoxious...
But, she's not too big of a problem.
She's too involved with her own stuff, anyway (school rules permitting)

DING
1-B
DONG
I'm actually pretty happy to be going to middle school
HEY! IS MIYAKE MIKU HERE?
THAT'S ME.
AAAAH!
IT'S WAKAMURA AND ARUGA!
WHAT DO THEY WANT WITH HER?
Dammit
What's THEIR problem!
Besides, making fun of folks wearing the same clothes is stupid.

HEE!
It's that goofy guy from this morning!
AAH!
YES
ARE YOU MIYAKE?
THAT IS SO COOL!
YEAH, GRANDPA'S PENSION CAN'T COVER EVERYTHING
So we grow our own food.
I HEAR YOU LIVE ON A SELF-SUFFICIENT FARM UP IN THE MOUNTAINS
I'M SERIOUS! THAT IS JUST FANTASTIC!
THERE AREN'T MANY OF YOU LEFT THESE DAYS!
SHE THINKS YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF HER, DUMBASS
UMMM, YEAH VERY FUNNY.
Who put you up to this?
...

Yahoo!
YAHOO
Oh... Hehe...
I had him all wrong!
WHAT IS IT YOU GUYS WANT?
SO, UM
MORE LIKE WHAT HE WANTS.
I'm not in on this.
I'M ARUGA TOMO. THIRD-YEAR
SO YOU HAVE CATS, RIGHT?
Huh?
HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING ME OR SOMETHING?
No!
NOT AT ALL.
IT'S JUST THAT FOLKS IN THE MOUNTAINS TEND TO FEED STRAYS
OH WELL, I'D SAY WE HAVE ABOUT 50
THAT'S GREAT!

I'M NOT SURE. HE WANTS TO MEET ME AFTER SCHOOL.
SO? SO? WH...T'D HE W...NT?
WAH!
LOOK, WOULD YOU MEET ME AFTER SCHOOL?
Uh...
MAYBE FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES.
POCKY! CAN I HAVE SOME? ♥
WELL, UM...
TOMO AIUGA
TETSU KAWAMURA
AND AIUGA IS JUST TOO CUTE!
KAWAMURA IS SO HOT!
"OH. MY. GOD. THOSE TWO ARE SOOOO POPULAR!
Thanks.
NO, I DON'T THINK SO. You are [illegible] them all
CHOMP CHOMP
NO
IS THAT BAD?
SO, MIKU,
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HIM?

NERVOUS
UH... ARE MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ALLOWED IN HERE?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! A FRIEND OF MY BROTHER'S OWNS THE PLACE
THEY'RE PRETTY LAID BACK HERE
CAFE&BAR
I's Hill
YOU MADE IT! GREAT!
EVERY-ONE'S ALREADY HERE
Oh... ALREADY HERE...?
HEY, POCHI!
Oh, man. This is like a whole new world...
THIS IS MIYAKE MIKU!
WHO'S SHE?
HI, POCHI!
Pochi!
UH... WHY ARE THEY CALLING HIM POCHI?
THAT'S HIS NICKNAME.
HE STARTED CALLING HIMSELF THAT WHEN HE WAS LITTLE.
"Pochi-senpai..."
I THINK THAT WAS HIS DOG'S NAME, BUT I'M NOT SURE.
OH...
Heh heh
That kinda suits him.

I saw it, too.
Ooh! I saw that!
I WAS WATCHING TV THE OTHER DAY
IT WAS A PROGRAM ABOUT THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE WITH CROWS
Yes, she DOES know a lot.
What are you getting excited about?
WHAT, AGAIN?
YOU MADE ONE LAST MONTH.
HUH...
Okay!
CAN I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE?! I HAVE A PROPOSAL TO MAKE!
THEY SAID THAT WHEN THE NESTS WERE REMOVED, THERE WERE BABY CROWS IN THEM
SO, A LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER SUGGESTED REMOVING THEIR NESTS.
WELL, CROWS SOMETIMES ATTACK GARBAGE COLLECTORS
WHAT DO YOU ALL THINK ABOUT THIS?!
NOW... I AGREE THAT CROWS CAN BE OBNOXIOUS...
BUT KILLING BABY CROWS IS JUST PATHETIC!
.....
Oh, yeah... I remember how bad I felt when I saw that...

Rummaging noisily
Ah, the crack of dawn! Time to eat!
That was good!
Nice crows.
Thank you for the food!
Kaw!
WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING!
WE HAVE TO SHOW THEM THAT CROWS AREN'T ALL BAD!
GAH!
DUMB IDEA
NO CHANCE
NOT GONNA HAPPEN
FORGET IT
PLUS, WE CAN MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD CATS AS WELL!
I CALL IT "THE CROW AND CAT GENTRIFICATION PLAN!"
あはは
Ha Ha Ha
What a goofball!
Still, I like the idea...
SIGH
HMPH
WE CAN ALL DO THIS IF WE BAND TOGETHER!

On Pochi...

usually miho obana writes about a bunch of stuff in this column, but her writing was really hard to translate, so it's not going up here.

but, i will say a few things, since the space is here and all. how about the reason this has taken so long to come out? well, you see it all start when we first decided to do this project. we didn't know how tough it was going to be. first off, jhitchin had some trouble translating the manga. but, he eventually got through the hurdles, and finished it. then it came to me, and it took a long time to clean. lots of redrawing, which takes a long time to do. plus, i have a job and a social life, so finding the time to do it in is hard. i've spent a good 20 hours on this chapter already, and it looks like i might spend a few more...

WONDERFUL! I WAS HOPING YOU'D JOIN ME.
ESPECIALLY IF THE RUMORS ARE TRUE.
Uh... WHAT KIND OF RUMORS?
THAT YOU UM...
Hope In His Eyes
YOU CAN TALK TO CATS
.....
FROZEN IN PLACE
GAH!
That's just a story
UH... NOT QUITE.
OH, RIGHT. WELL, UM...
SIGH
A LITTLE DEJECTED
I FIGURED THAT SINCE YOU PRACTICALLY LIVE IN A CAT MANSION, IT MIGHT BE TRUE.
UH...
I CAN USUALLY TELL HOW A CAT IS FEELING, THOUGH...
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT YOU HEARD...
I wonder if that's it...

On Pochi 2...

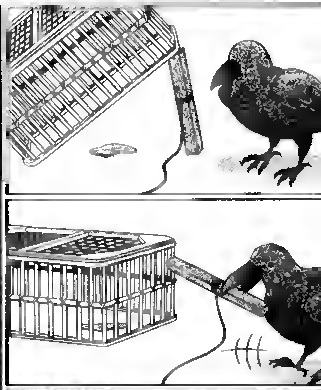
so anyways, to continue what I was saying, to make things even harder, photoshop keeps closing out of nowhere on me, slowing my work drastically. I'll be close to finishing a page and it closes and I lose my work on it. I've had to result to saving after every line of text. very annoying. anywho, this one shot I originally thought was a short story about kodocha until I read kodocha, and figured out it was not. it's just a one shot from ohana. so if you saw that little comment on the site, sorry. but now you know. :p

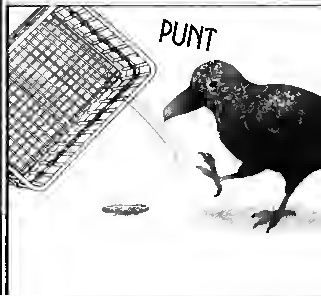
this little side panel will be the last one of the chapter, so I guess I'll just put in a little ad for tamascans. we need some translators and editors, so if you're interested please visit our channel or email me. you can find me email on our site somewhere. or you can post in the forums. infact, everyone should come to the forums!

That must be it...
I SHOULDN'T TAKE RUMORS SO SERIOUSLY, I GUESS
WELL
Is he actually disappointed...?
I MEAN, I HAVE BEEN RAISING CATS MY WHOLE LIFE, SO I KIND OF KNOW WHAT THEY'RE FEELING
GREAT!
I HAVE NO AFFINITY FOR CATS DON'T GET THEM AT ALL!
CAN I USE YOUR SKILL, THEN?
SURE!
EXCELLENT. WE'LL GIVE IT A SHOT TOMORROW!
CAW!

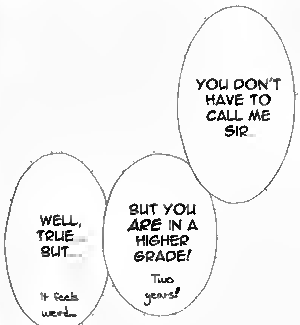
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN TEACH THEM SOME MANNERS
WE'LL NEED TO CATCH ONE SOT THAT?
Yep.
LOUD AND CLEAR, SIR!
What the heck?
YES
YOU READY?
BISTLE

LOOK AT THAT! MAN, HE'S A SMART BIRD.
He may be smarter than me!
The type is style at most
REAL SMART BIRD
LET'S HOPE WE GET THE NEXT ONE, SIR




PUNT

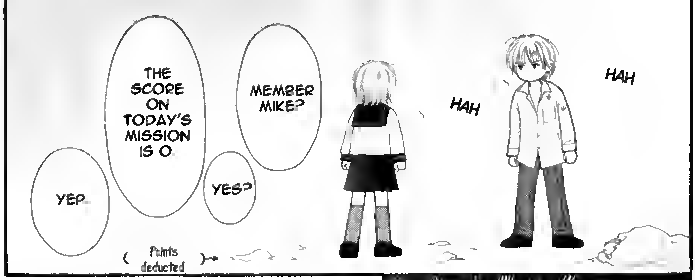
OKAY, THAT WAS TOO INFORMAL!
OKEY DOKEY, POCHI!


YOU DON'T HAVE TO CALL ME SIR.
BUT YOU ARE IN A HIGHER GRADE! Two years!
WELL, TRUE, BUT... It feels weird...

LOOK! HERE COMES A CAT!
HIP
THEY'RE REALLY RIPPING UP THAT BAG, HUH?
UH I, UH...

"HUNGRY HUNGRY GOTTA GET RID OF THOSE STUPID CROWS."
MRRRRRRRRW
THAT'S JUST A GUESS, THOUGH
HE WANTS THE GARBAGE. Makes sense.
SO, WHAT'S HE SAYING?

CAW
PULL
NOW!
YEAH! WE DID IT!
LOOK! A CROW'S IN THE TRAP!
FLAP FLAP
OW!
POCHI!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! WATCH THE CATS!
OKAY
HEY! BREAK IT UP!
C'MON! SHARE IT!
You can take it home and eat it there, too.
MIKU! I THINK I'VE GOT THE CROW CALMED DOWN!
SWAT


THE SCORE ON TODAY'S MISSION IS 0
MEMBER MIKE?
YEP.
YES?
Points deducted
HAH
HAH

INFIRMARY
I THINK IT MIGHT BE TOO HARD TO TRY AND TRAIN ALL THE CROWS IN TOWN, SIR
MAYBE I CAN COME UP WITH A BETTER WAY OF DOING THIS
Heh heh. YOU MIGHT HAVE A POINT THERE.
THANKS! THAT'D BE GREAT!

He's serious!
WE ARE DONE WITH MISSIONS FOR TODAY!
You're on clean-up duty
Uhh ok

IT'S TODAY. I HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT.
HERE. IT'S MY WAY OF SAYING THANKS.
Liveball
TEA
ARTIST
DRINK

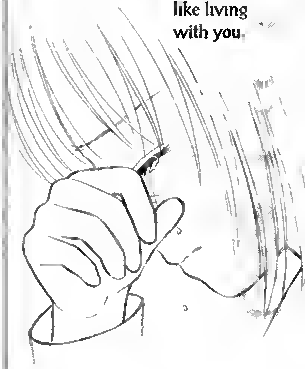
WOW! YOU'RE A JACK OF ALL TRADES, AREN'T YOU?
WE'RE JUST A LOCAL BAND, THOUGH.
LIVE CONCERT?
And I couldn't afford it otherwise...
There's bound to be tons of cute guys ♡ there!
A live concert.
Then, after school.
DING
1-B
DONG
HEY.
WHOSE IS THIS?
YO
WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?
I'D LOVE TO GO!
SOMETHING CASUAL WOULD BE FINE
CASUAL?
You sent us about the gen-tification flyer?
You, too?
I'm totally serious about it.

I think I did a great job on it!
Thanks!
So Grandpa made one for me.
I told him I wanted a new bag...
I'm a little embarassed to use it but...
It is um...
Th... That's mine!
Oh, no!
THIS BOOK BAG, I MEAN.
IT STINKS, ANYWAY.
I'M GOING TO TOSS IT.
Oh, what am I going to do!!
GRAB
ばっ
AAAAAGH!
I-B
I-B

RUSTLE
DIG
HUH. FIGURES YOU'D BE IN THE GARBAGE...
BANG
SO I LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS
DOES IT BOTHER YOU THAT MUCH, NAOMI?

ANSWER ME, DAMMIT!!
DOES THAT BOTHER YOU TOO, NAOMI?
SO I CAN'T AFFORD NICE CLOTHES AND FASHIONABLE BOOKBAGS
I'm going to cry...
But not in front of her!!
THAT WAS CRUEL, NAOMI
YEAH THAT WAS TOTALLY UNNEC-ESSARY!
You really hurt her feelings!
MIKU!!
I'm sorry, Grandpa...
Sorry for what I was thinking...

HEY, I'M FINE! I WASN'T CRYING!
BUT YOU SCATTERED TRASH EVERY-WHERE
Looks like the crows got in here...
I bounce back fast.
It's my strong point
PEEEUW! SOMEONE FARTED OUT HERE!
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT. I WASN'T CRYING, OKAY?!
That's not what happened.
There's nobody else out here...
SIGH
Get out. Get out now!


I really, truly like living with you.

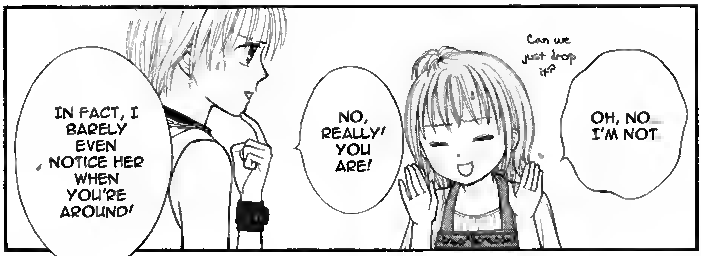
I know that Naomi's a fool and an idiot...
But it still hurts sometimes

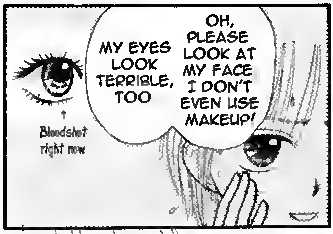
GOIN' TO A CON-CERT!
Yeah!
CON-CERT! CON-CERT!
Studio & Live hall
ZEAX
Oh my...
OH MY GOD IT'S LOUD!!
Pochi's on next!
MENU
ZEAX
AAH!
Here he comes!
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP

TA-DA!
Woah. He looks so cool
OOO-WAH... OOO-WAH...
GORILLAS... ♬
MONKEYS... ♬
CHIMPANZEES!!! ♬
yeah!
Okay.
Uh...
Maybe not so cool.
What IS this!

SPRINGING FROM THE EARTH ♪
GIVING BIRTH AND MULTIPLYING ♫
TOMO-KUN!
Guess it's popular.
Reminds me of this manga band...
Yeah, MADE FROM THE EARTH! ♫
POCHI-KUN!
MONKEYS OF THE WORLD! ♫
OO KEE KEE!
THE DOGS ♫ OVER THERE!
ARF! ARF! ♫
SUMMER
MIKE-CHAN!
WHAT'D YOU THINK?
Yeah, yeah, I'm not the best dressed.
Can't let her get to me.
Hey?
Naomi! What's she doing here!
EW. BAD CLOTHES.

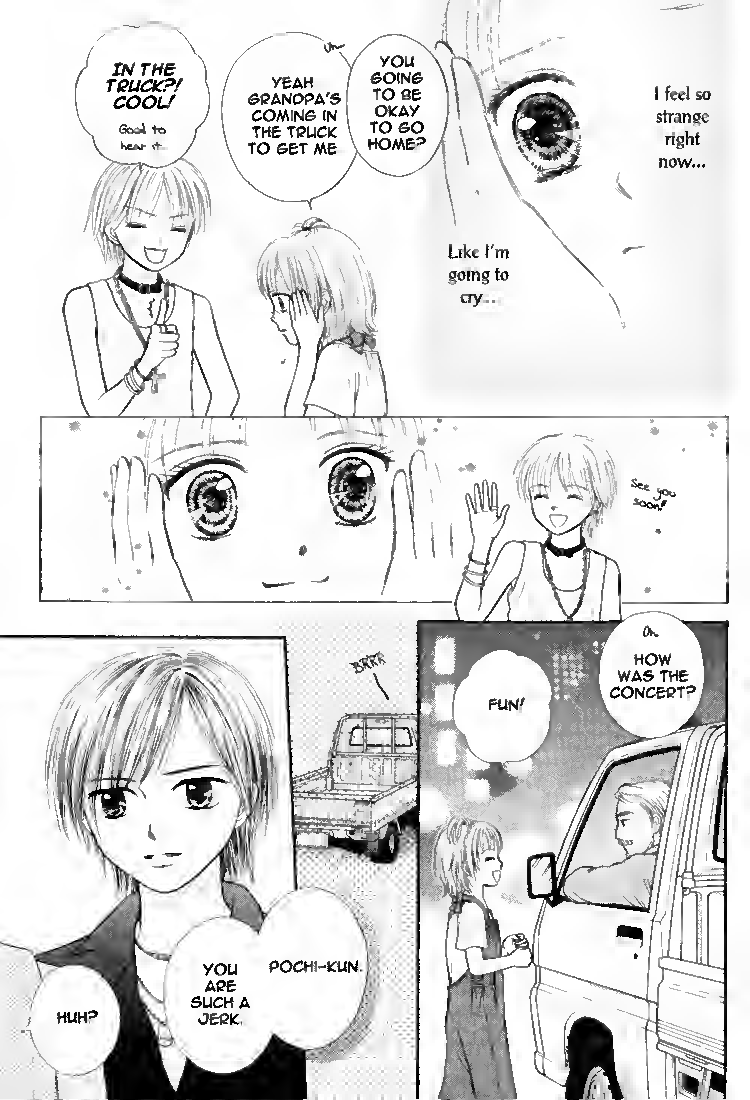
HEY, THAT GIRL OVER THERE... SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU JUST NOW.
And she wasn't being nice.
OH. YEAH.
Oh, wow.
IT WAS REALLY INTER-ESTING!
You're really good, Pochi-kun.
It was a really serious number!
"INTER-ESTING?"
THANKS, THOUGH
WELL, SHE'S ALWAYS DOING THAT
THEN AGAIN, SHE'S ALWAYS DRESSED SO WELL AND SHE'S REALLY PRETTY...
I MUST LOOK DUMB AND UGLY NEXT TO HER
YOU ARE NOT UGLY!
PERSONALLY, I THINK YOU'RE PRETTIER THAN SHE IS.

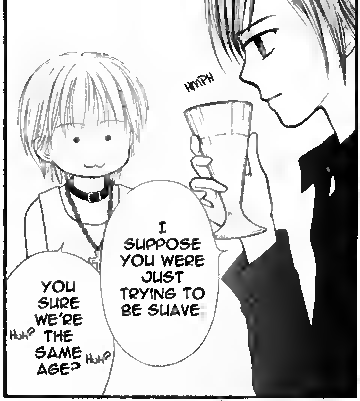

IN FACT, I BARELY EVEN NOTICE HER WHEN YOU'RE AROUND!
NO, REALLY! YOU ARE!
Can we just drop it?
OH, NO I'M NOT


OH, PLEASE LOOK AT MY FACE I DON'T EVEN USE MAKEUP!
MY EYES LOOK TERRIBLE, TOO
Bloodshot right now

BUT, YOU ARE, MIKE-CHAN.
YOU'RE VERY PRETTY
I ONLY SEE BLUE AND WHITE IN YOUR EYES
THEY LOOK REALLY CLEAR TO ME
YOUR SKIN AND TEETH ARE PRETTY, TOO
I'M GLAD YOU CAME INTO MY LIFE

YOU REALLY ARE PRETTY
I UH- I CAN'T BE!
NO ONE'S EVER SAID THAT TO ME BEFORE!
OH! REALLY?
I am SO glad it's dark in here.
That's really funny!


IN THE TRUCK?! COOL!
Good to hear it.
YEAH GRANDPA'S COMING IN THE TRUCK TO GET ME
Um
YOU GOING TO BE OKAY TO GO HOME?
I feel so strange right now...
Like I'm going to cry...
See you soon!
Oh.
HOW WAS THE CONCERT?
FUN!
BRRR
POCHI-KUN.
YOU ARE SUCH A JERK.
HUH?


NYPH
I SUPPOSE YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO BE SUAVE
YOU SURE WE'RE THE SAME AGE?
HUH?
HUH?

SAYING ALL THOSE SAPPY THINGS TO HER
C'MON! YOU'RE KILLING ME HERE!
WHAT?!
SAPPY?!

OH, YEAH! SHE'S CUTE!
MIKU-CHAN'S CUTE, HUH?

NOTHING
.....

HEY, ABOUT SAYAKA-SAN
WHAT ABOUT SAYAKA-CHAN?

To have a boy say those things to me...
My heart won't stop pounding
It was so strange...
Oh, Pochi-kun...
I think...
think I want to be your Mike-chan...

Translator Notes:

Page 6:
K prefecture of Kanto: Kento is the region of Japan that includes Tokyo and Yokohama. Each region is divided into prefectures and "K prefecture" refers to Kanagawa, which is the prefecture that includes Yokohama. Other areas of note in Kanagawa are Kamakura (a stone city with lots of shrines and temples) and Hakone (a hot springs resort).

Page 10:
Maybe it's Maybelline: I had trouble identifying this. Since it sounded like an advertising tagline to me, I thought I'd go with an American equivalent here.

Page 23:
You don't have to call me sir: In the Japanese, he actually said that she didn't have to be so formal in her Japanese. She was using all formal endings (-imasu, -imasen, -imashou) and that was making him feel strange.

Page 38:
Sappy: The original Japanese said "koroshimonku" here which means "killing words of love" and Toma responds, "KILLING WORDS?!" I came up with an English equivalent, but I wanted to point this out since I found this particular phrasing fun and insightful.

POCHI

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Translator: Jhitchin
Editor: Kuwa-Jiji
Proofer: Kuwa-Jiji

http://www.tamascans.com
Hooray for our first Shoujo release!